

SERIAL NO. 10/077,612

IN THE CLAIMS

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Claim 1. (Original) A gel-resistant carrier for a biocide which comprises:

- (i) between about 0 and about 50 wt.% of an organic oil;
- (ii) between about 15 and about 30 wt.% of a terminally hindered carbodiimide;
- (iii) between about 15 and about 90 wt. % of a lipophilic/hydrophilic mixture having an HLB of from about 6 to about 20 and
- (iv) between about 0.5 and about 30 wt. %, based on (i) through (iii), of an anti-gelling agent selected from the group consisting of an inorganic oxide, an epoxylated naturally occurring or synthetic vegetable oil, an epoxy ester of a saturated or unsaturated aliphatic C₆ to C₁₈ aliphatic acid optionally containing hydroxy substitution and mixtures of said anti-gelling agents.

Claim 2. (Original) The carrier of claim 1 wherein said anti-gelling agent is an oxide of Ca, Mg, Zn or Al.

Claim 3. (Original) The carrier of claim 2 wherein said anti-gelling agent is CaO.

Claim 4. (Original) The carrier of claim 1 in which said anti-gelling agent is an epoxy-containing compound wherein the epoxy moiety content is at least 5% of the double bond and/or hydroxy content in the anti-gelling agent compound.

Claim 5. (Original) The carrier of claim 1 wherein said anti-gelling agent is an epoxidized vegetable oil.

SERIAL NO. 10/077,612

Claim 6. (Original) The carrier of claim 5 wherein said anti-gelling agent is selected from the group of epoxidized linseed oil, safflower oil and or soybean oil or a mixture thereof.

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Claim 7. (Original) A gel resistant, biocidally active concentrate or solution containing (a) between about 0.05 and about 25 wt.% of a biocidally active component; (b) between about 0 and about 40 wt.% of an organic oil; (c) between about 2 and about 20 wt.% of a terminally hindered carbodiimide; (d) between about 10 and about 80 wt.% of a lipophilic/hydrophilic emulsifier mixture having a HLB of from about 6 to 20 and (e) between about 0.5 and about 20 wt.%, based on (a) through (d), of an aliphatic anti-gelling agent selected from the group consisting essentially of an inorganic oxide, an epoxidized ester of a naturally occurring or synthetic vegetable oil and an epoxidized ester of a saturated or unsaturated C₆ to C₁₈ aliphatic acid optionally containing hydroxy substitution and mixtures of said anti-gelling agents.

Claim 8. (Original) The gel-resistant biocidally active concentrate or solution of claim 7 in which said anti-gelling agent is an epoxidized compound wherein the epoxy moiety represents at least 5% of the total double bond and/or hydroxy content in the anti-gelling agent compound.

Claim 9. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein said carbodiimide contains a terminal nitrogen atom substituted with a radical selected from the group consisting of a lower alkyl phenyl, sulfonate, sulfonamide, imido, imidoester.

Claim 10. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein said carbodiimide is bis(tetra-and/or di- isopropyl phenyl) carbodiimide.

SERIAL NO. 10/077,612

Claim 11. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein said carbodiimide is bis(alkoxyphenyl)carbodiimide.

Claim 12. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein said emulsifier mixture has an acid number less than 5.

Claim 13. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein said emulsifier mixture includes an oil containing 5 to 60 C₂ to C₃ alkoxy groups.

Claim 14. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein said emulsifier mixture includes an ethoxylated castor oil.

Claim 15. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein said hydrophilic emulsifier is a hydroxylated ester of a carboxylic acid which contains 5 to 60 C₂ to C₃ alkoxy units or a mixture thereof.

Claim 16. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein said hydrophilic emulsifier is selected from the group consisting of an ethoxylated sorbitan mono-, di- and/or tri- oleate and a C₈ to C₁₂ alkyl phosphate or a mixture thereof.

Claim 17. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein said anti-gelling agent is employed at a concentration of between about 1 and about 15 wt.% of components (a) through (d) of the concentrate composition.

Claim 18. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein said anti-gelling agent is an oxide of Ca, Mg, Zn or Al or a mixture thereof.

SERIAL NO. 10/077,612

Claim 19. (Original) The composition of claim 18 wherein said anti-gelling agent is Al_2O_3 .

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 7 wherein said anti-gelling agent is selected from the group consisting of epoxylated linseed, safflower or soybean oil or a mixture thereof.

Claim 21. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein said anti-gelling agent is epoxidized linseed oil.

Claim 22. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the HLB of the emulsifier mixture is between 6 and 11.

Claim 23. (Original) A homogeneous microemulsion comprising the concentrate and anti-gelling agent of claim 7 diluted with solvent to between about 1:10 and about 1:10,000 parts of concentrate to parts of solvent.

Claim 24. (Original) The microemulsion of claim 23 wherein the solvent is water and the active component is a water soluble or water insoluble compound.

Claim 25. (Original) The microemulsion of claim 23 wherein the active biocide is water insoluble and is dissolved in a N-C_8 to C_{12} alkyl pyrrolidone.

Claim 26. (Original) The microemulsion of claim 23 wherein the active compound is N-cyclopropyl-1, 3, 5-triazine-2, 4, 6-triamine or N-methyl bis(2,4-xylyliminomethyl amine).

SERIAL NO. 10/077,612

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Claim 27. (Original) The microemulsion of claim 23 which is diluted between about 1:10 and about 1:1,000 with solvent and said solvent is water.

Claim 28. (New) The concentrate of claim 7 containing between about 5 and about 40 wt. % of a N-C₈ to C₁₂ alkyl pyrrolidone oil mixture.
Supported on page 3, last paragraph and page 11, Example 5, Table.

A2
Claim 29. (New) The concentrate of claim 7 wherein the anti-gelling agent is a mixture containing at least two of the components selected from the group consisting of Ca oxide, epoxidized soybean oil and sorbitol.
Supported on page 7, lines 4-6.

Claim 30. (New) The concentrate of claim 7 wherein the anti-gelling agent is a mixture of Ca oxide and epoxidized linseed oil or soybean oil.
Supported on page 7, 4th paragraph and page 11, Example 5, Table.

The fee for the additional 3 claims of \$54.00 should be charged to our Deposit Account 07-0650.